スパイラル

推理の絆

2

作：城平　京

画：水野英多

GANGAN COMICS

GC スパイラル 推理の絆 2

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エニックス

GC ガンガンコミックス

スパイラル 2
推理の絆

SFX : pulls back

WRITTEN BY SHIRODAIRA KYO

DRAWN BY MIZUNO HIDETA

GANGAN COMICS

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作：城平京
画：水野英多

ENIX エニックス

INANE
#MANGAREADERS@IRC.MIRCX.COM

SCANLATED BY : ALIERA
TRANSLATED BY : RAINE
EDITED BY : XELO
PROOF-READ BY : MIKAOL_CHILL

GC ガンガンコミックス

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推理の絆

2

作／城平京　画／水野英多

THERE ONCE WAS A MAN HAILED AS GREAT DETECTIVE IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT。

THAT MEANS, HE NO LONGER IS PRESENT 。

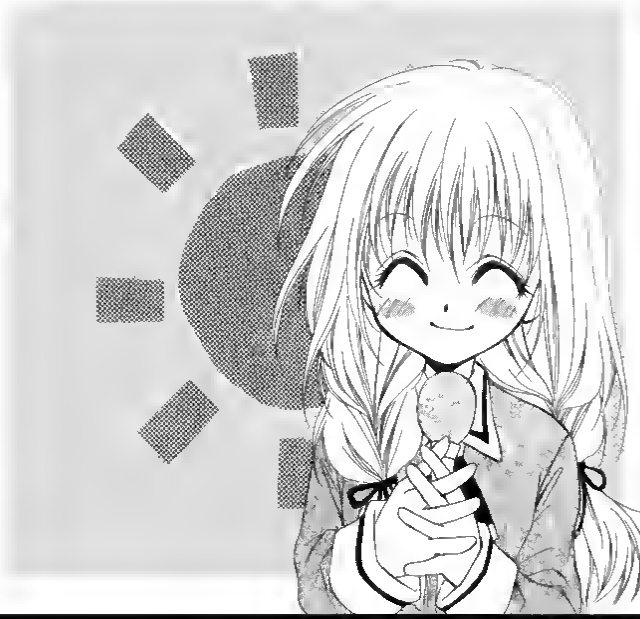
HE DISSAPPEARED LEAVING ONLY THE MYSTERIOUS WORD

「I'M GOING TO PURSUE THE BLADE CHILDREN」。

HIS WHEREABOUTS ARE STILL UNKNOWN ••••••。

. SO THIS IS THE STORY OF HIS BROTHER,
AYUMU NARUMI 。

His Destiny is On the SPIRAL



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The Room With the Special Lock (Part 3)

...
IF THIS MURDER
HAD GONE ACCORDING TO THE MURDERER'S PLAN, THEN...
THE MURDERER'S IDENTITY WOULD NOT ONLY HAVE NEVER BEEN REVEALED. IT WOULD ALSO HAVE REMAINED A MYSTERY FOREVER

ONE IS THE MARK THAT WAS LEFT BEHIND
AND THE OTHER IS THAT WHAT WAS "SUPPOSED TO BE THERE" HAD DISAPPEARED
BUT THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT HUMANS CAN'T PREDICT!
THE MURDERER HAD ALLOWED 2 IMPORTANT PIECES OF EVIDENCE TO EXIST
THE VICTIM NEEDED MONEY IN ORDER TO GO AHEAD WITH THE SURGERY TO CURE THE HEART ATTACK!
RIGHT?
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AND THAT'S WHY WE THOUGHT THAT SHE WAS BLACKMAILING PEOPLE!
IS THERE ANYTHING WRONG WITH THAT?
THAT'S TRUE. HER HEART WAS WEAK, AND COULD SUFFER AN ATTACK AT ANY TIME. THAT WAS WHY SHE WAS IN A HURRY TO GET THE SURGERY DONE

!!
THE MEDICATION FOR HER HEART ATTACK ON HER?
IF THAT WAS THE CASE, THEN WHY COULDN'T WE FIND ...
BUT THIS ITEM THAT WAS "SUPPOSED TO BE THERE" HAD DISAPPEARED
LOGICALLY SPEAKING, SHE WOULD HAVE PUT THE PILLS IN HER POCKET OR HER PURSE
IF SHE COULD HAVE AN ATTACK AT ANY TIME, WHY DIDN'T SHE HAVE HER MEDICATION WITH HER?
THE MURDERER TOOK IT AWAY
WHY? IT'S BECAUSE ...

THE REASON'S SIMPLE ...
I GOT IT!
SHE HAD A HEART ATTACK !
THAT'S RIGHT!
THE MURDERER WAS GOING TO INCREASE THE STRESS ON HER HEART...
AND LET HER DIE OF A HEART ATTACK
ALTHOUGH THE BODY WAS EXAMINED AND SINCE THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF A STRUGGLE IT WAS SUSPECTED THAT THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS FROM HEART FAILURE SINCE THE HOSPITAL HAD THAT ON RECORD
SINCE THE PLACE OF DEATH OCCURRED IN THE SECRET ROOM THIS FURTHER MADE THE CAUSE OF DEATH FROM HEART FAILURE MORE PLAUSIBLE
FOR THE MURDERER, THIS WAS THE BEST METHOD TO BYPASS THE POLICE AND ELIMINATE ALL SUSPICIONS

THE EVIDENCE IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU!
SIS, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
HOW COULD THE MURDERER INCREASE THE STRESS ON HER HEART...
BUT BY BRINGING HER TO THE SECRET ROOM,
THEN THE MURDERER DELIBERATELY ARRIVED LATE, KNOCKED ON THE DOOR, REPORTED HIS OWN NAME AND ASKED THE VICTIM TO OPEN THE DOOR
THE DOOR WAS LOCKED TO PREVENT ANY DISRUPTIONS, AND AT THE SAME TIME, THE KEY IN THE KEY-HOLE STOPPED OTHERS FROM PEEKING
ON TOP OF THAT THE VICTIM WAS TOLD THAT THE LOCK ON THE DOOR WAS BROKEN AND COULDN'T BE USED
THE MURDERER TOLD THE VICTIM TO GO AND ENTER THE SECRET ROOM LATE AT NIGHT USING THE EXCUSE THAT THE MURDERER WANTED TO DISCUSS SOMETHING WITH THE VICTIM
KNOWING THAT THERE WAS NO WAY TO USE THE "BROKEN LOCK", THE VICTIM RELIED ON THE KEY TO OPEN THE DOOR

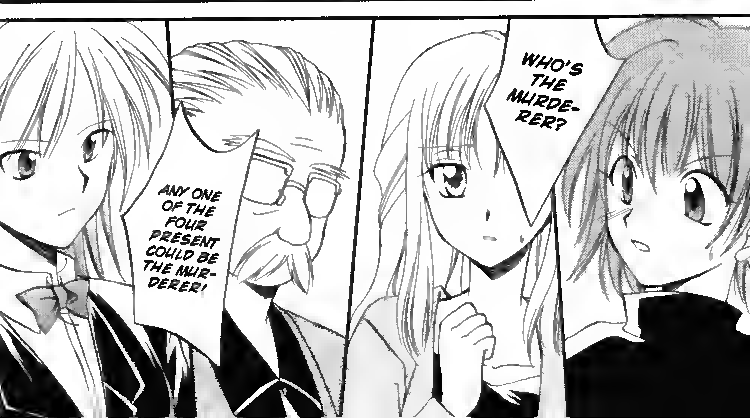
THIS HAD BEEN THE MURDERER'S INTENTION ALL ALONG!
AT THAT TIME THE KEY SEALED THE INSIDE FROM THE OUTSIDE OF THE ROOM
Seeing the nails from the outside
that mark
AH!

THE CURRENT TRAVELLED THROUGH THE VICTIM'S FINGERS TO THE HEART!
I GET IT NOW!!
THE MURDERER USED SOME TYPE OF ELECTRICAL ROD AND PUT A CURRENT THROUGH THE KEY
THAT'S RIGHT!
THEREFORE, THE MARK LEFT BY THE VICTIM MEANT THAT THE CAUSE OF HER DEATH WAS DUE TO AN "ELECTRICAL SHOCK"
THE VICTIM COULD HAVE DIED FROM THE INITIAL SHOCK, BUT THE MURDERER COULD CONTROL THE STRENGTH OF THE SHOCK AND ITS DURATION. IT WAS VERY EASY TO ALLOW THE VICTIM TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH A HIGH VOLTAGE CURRENT
AND PLUS, THE KEY IS MADE OF COPPER
SO IT HAS A HIGH LEVEL OF CONDUCTIVITY

BUT, THE VICTIM'S FINGERS COULD HAVE BEEN BURNED FROM THE ELECTRICAL SHOCK!
ALSO, THE CORPSE SHOULD HAVE SHOWN TRACES OR SPARKS OF THE ELECTRICAL CURRENT...
THAT DEPENDS ON HOW STRONG THE CURRENT WAS AND HOW MUCH STATIC THE PERSON HAD
SINCE IT WAS RAINING HARD WHEN THE CRIME TOOK PLACE, AND THE AMOUNT OF CURRENT COULD BE CONTROLLED THE HUMIDITY OF THE AIR WAS INCREASED AND THE AMOUNT OF STATIC A PERSON COULD CONTAIN WAS DECREASED
AS FOR THE TRACES OR SPARKS OF THE ELECTRICITY, THEY WOULD ONLY SHOW IF THE VOLTAGE WAS EXTREMELY HIGH
B.. BUT..
THIS METHOD WAS RATHER RISKY IF IT FAILED
THE CHANCES OF SUCCESS ARE VERY HIGH!

IF THE VICTIM DID NOT FALL FOR THE TRAP, THEN THE MURDERER COULD JUST GO INTO THE ROOM AND SHOCK THE VICTIM ANYWAY. LETTING HER DIE OF A HEART ATTACK
EVEN IF THE MURDERER LOST ONE ALIBI, IT DOESN'T HAVE MUCH OF AN EFFECT
THE MURDERER USED ELECTRICITY TO CAUSE THE VICTIM TO HAVE A HEART ATTACK
UP TO THAT POINT, EVERYTHING WAS GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN
BUT AFTER THAT, THINGS STARTED TO CHANGE!
THE VICTIM HAD A HEART ATTACK, AND RUSHED TO GET HER MEDICATION FROM HER PURSE
BUT SHE WAS IN SO MUCH PAIN SHE COULDN'T STAND, AND FELL OVER
AS A RESULT, SHE HIT HER HEAD ON THE CHAIR
THIS FATAL BLOW--- HER INJURED HEAD...
WAS BLEEDING...
HALF CONSCIOUS...

ALL THAT THE MURDERER COULD DO WAS PUT HIS EAR UP TO THE DOOR TO CONFIRM THAT THE VICTIM'S PAINFUL CRIES HAD STOPPED
OF COURSE THE MURDERER DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS SINCE HE WAS STANDING OUTSIDE
THE VICTIM LEFT A MARK RELATED TO THE ELECTRIC SHOCK IN ORDER TO REVEAL THE MURDERER'S INTENTIONS
THAT'S WHY THE SYMBOL WAS LEFT THERE, ALONG WITH THE VICTIM'S BODY
TH... THEN...


ANY ONE OF THE FOUR PRESENT COULD BE THE MURDERER!
WHO'S THE MURDERER?

BUT, WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF SHE COULDN'T FIND HER MEDICINE IN HER POCKET OR HER BAG?
THE VICTIM DIED ACCORDING TO PLAN...
THE MURDERER WAS TIED DOWN DUE TO ONE THING
TRUE, EVERYONE HERE IS A SUSPECT
BUT...
SUSPICIONS ARISE WHEN THE POLICE CAN'T FIND THE MEDICINE AND THIS INCREASES THE CHANCES OF FURTHER INVESTIGATION
HE WOULD THINK OF A WAY TO GIVE THE MEDICINE BACK TO THE VICTIM!
THE MURDERER DEFINITELY COULDN'T SIT BACK AND LET THIS GO BY
SO THE MURDERER HAD ALLOWED TIME IN THE PLAN TO RETURN THE MEDICINE
IF EVERYTHING HAD GONE ACCORDING TO PLAN
WHAT WOULD THE VICTIM'S BODY HAVE GONE THROUGH BEFORE IT WAS FOUND?
...AND SO

FIRST SAYOKO-SAN WENT TO THE LIBRARY AND FOUND THAT THE DOOR WAS LOCKED
BECAUSE SHE COULDN'T GO IN SHE WENT TO THE KITCHEN TO TELL REIKO-SAN THE ONLY OTHER PERSON WITH A KEY
SHE HEADED TOWARDS THE LIBRARY...
WHEN THE DOOR WAS OPENED, THE VICTIM WAS FOUND ON THE GROUND
AT THAT TIME, THE FIRST PERSON TO COME IN CONTACT WITH THE CORPSE WAS
YOU, HATSUYAMA REIKO-SAN!

YOU HAD THE MEDICINE IN YOUR HAND AND...
WHILE SAYOKO-SAN WAS NOT PAYING ATTENTION, YOU RETURNED THE MEDICINE
AFTER ALL, IT WAS A CHANCE!
BUT THE REALITY DIFFERED FROM YOUR PLAN
BECAUSE KEI-SAN HAD ALSO SHOWN UP AT THE SCENE
YOU LOST YOUR CHANCE TO RETURN THE MEDICINE
AND LEFT THAT FATAL PIECE OF EVIDENCE BEHIND
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU WERE FOLLOWING THE ORDERS OF YOUR MASTER...
BUT THERE ARE NO POSSIBLE SUSPECTS, OTHER THAN YOU

...
HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT IT,
I WAS THE ONE...
WHO WAS BEHIND EVERY-THING!
THAT WOMAN ALWAYS USED THE MIS-TRESS TO THREATEN HIM---
I COULDN'T STAND SEEING MASTER WORRY SO MUCH

YOU'RE RIGHT!
I AM INDEED THE MURDERER
YOU WERE WILLING TO KILL SOMEONE IN ORDER TO PROTECT YOUR MASTER?
HEY, I HEARD THE CASE ABOUT THE 15 CASUALTIES AT THAT WORK SITE—

人殺し!
Murderer!
WAS CAUSED BY HER FATHER!
CONCERNING ACCIDENT IN THE CHEMICAL PLANT THE CAUSE SEEMS TO BE HUMAN ERROR DUE TO OPERATOR'S CARELESS UNDERSTANDING
Standard results
And death toll
But
WORK IN MY HOME!
I didn't know when it happened but I couldn't smile anymore —

THIS EVENT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU
MASTER HAD SAVED ME DURING MY MOST MISERABLE TIME.
I COULD CALL HIM MY FOSTER PARENT
EVEN IF I SPENT A WHOLE WEEK,
I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LIST ALL THE THINGS HE HAS DONE FOR ME

THIS... IS REALLY ...
THIS IS INCREDIBLE, YOU CRACKED THE CASE JUST LIKE THAT...
IT'S AS IF YOU'RE A MAGICIAN!
DEFINATELY
ONE WHO CARRIES THE BLOOD OF FAMOUS DETECTIVES
.....
NOHARA MIZUE...
WANTED ME TO HELP HER ESCAPE, OR ELSE SHE WOULD AWAKEN THE CURSE IN SAYOKO

I COULD ONLY AGREE WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT SHE HAD DIED,
I RELAXED A BIT, BUT ADACHI TAKAKO...
KEPT ON SAYING THAT THE "BLADE CHILDREN" WERE NOTORIOUS FOR TORTURING PEOPLE
SHE TOLD ME TO PREPARE THE MONEY FOR HER...
AND A FAKE PASSPORT
I'M NOT SURE, ALL I KNOW...
IS THAT THAT PHRASE DISTURBS SAYOKO
EXACTLY WHAT DID THAT MEAN?
IT'S BECAUSE SHE JUMPED OFF A BUILDING AND ATTEMPTED TO KILL HERSELF
YOU ALL KNOW THAT SAYOKO LOST HER MEMORY!
THAT WASN'T AN ACCIDENT

THIS HAPPENED A LONG TIME AGO
A WOMAN WHO WAS GOING TO ELOPE PHONED ME AND ASKED ME TO TAKE CARE OF HER DAUGHTER
AFTER A WHILE MY DAUGHTER PASSED AWAY FROM SICKNESS AND I TOOK IN A 10-YEAR-OLD SAYOKO
BUT, IT SEEMED THAT SAYOKO FEARED SOMETHING
SHE ALWAYS SAID THAT SHE WAS ONE OF THE "BLADE CHILDREN"
NOT LONG AFTER, SHE ATTEMPTED TO COMMIT SUICIDE
BECAUSE OF THAT SHE COMPLETELY LOST HER MEMORY, AND HAS LIVED HAPPILY
THEN I THOUGHT, SHE MUST HAVE GONE THROUGH A LOT OF HARDSHIP
...
BUT, BACK THEN
SHE WAS ONLY 10 YEARS OLD...

I ATTEMPTED TO COMMIT SUICIDE...?
YES..
YOU HAD THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE TO GO THROUGH MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO REGAIN YOUR LOST MEMORY
HOWEVER, THE "YOU" IN THE PAST PROBABLY WOULDN'T WANT THE "YOU" OF THE PRESENT TO DO THAT
BUT, FOR THIS KIND OF INSECURE LIFESTYLE...
EVEN SOMEONE WAS WILLING TO SACRIFICE HERSELF IN ORDER TO LIVE IT

UNLESS YOU HAVE SOME SPECIAL REASON....
TO FIND OUT WHO YOU TRUELY ARE, AND FORCE YOURSELF TO FACE REALITY?
.....!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET ANY MORE INFORMATION OUT OF THAT GIRL ANYMORE
OH, AND HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO GET POLICE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION?
That's a secret ~
I WANT TO KNOW THAT TOO
ANYHOW, WHAT WAS MY BROTHER TRYING TO INVESTIGATE?
A FEW PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY BEEN SACRIFICED...

?
SO IT IS YOU!
NO WONDER I THOUGHT YOU LOOKED FAMILIAR...
YOU'RE THE LITTLE BROTHER OF THAT FAMOUS PIANIST, NARUMI KIYOTAKA!
!
This guy.....
SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHY HAVEN'T I SEEN YOU TAKE PART IN ANY COMPETITIONS LATELY?
Would angrily say "piano piano"!!!!!!

Chapter 7:

Explosion Incident

A PIANIST AT THE AGE OF 14--- NOT VERY LONG AGO...
HE WAS LABELLED AS A PRODIGY IN AMERICA HE BECAME FAMOUS OVER NIGHT, DUE TO APPEARING IN A CAR COMMERCIAL LAST YEAR
HE HAS SOLD MILIONS OF TICKETS IN AMERICA FOR HIS PIANO CONCERTS... AND IS KNOWN AS BEING THE "NEW AGE" IN THE PIANO WORLD
HE IS 17 YEARS OLD, AND IS A QUARTER ENGLISH
EYES RUTHERFORD!
HE HAS ARRIVED FOR HIS CONCERT
PLEASE TALK ABOUT...

ANYBODY IS FINE!
JUST BRING ME HIS LITTLE BROTHER

SFX: dazed
ぼ
NARUMI KIYOTAKA'S LITTLE BROTHER!
HOW COME I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN ANY PIANO COMPETITIONS LATELY?
GAVE UP?
I GAVE UP PLAYING THE PIANO

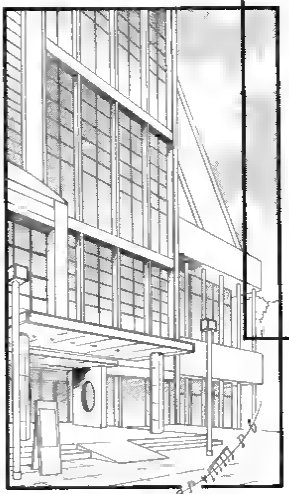
HOW CAN NARUMI'S LITTLE BROTHER GIVE UP PLAYING THE PIANO!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WAIT... CALM DOWN!
THAT'S SUCH A WASTE OF TALENT FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU!
DON'T JOKE AROUND!
THIS GUY HAS A TALENT THAT WOULD MAKE PEOPLE JEALOUS!
NARUMI-SAN!

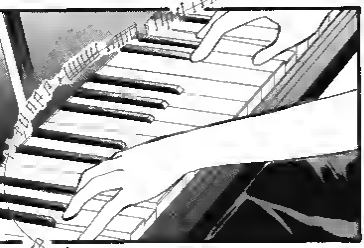
I HAVE SOME NEW INFO!
SONOBE TAKASHI, THE MAN ATTACKED BY NOHARA-SAN, HAS REGAINED HIS CONSCIOUSNESS AT THE HOSPITAL
HUH... REALLY?
"BLADE CHILDREN"..
THAT SONOBE IS OUR LAST CHANCE FOR ANY CLUES
HEY,HEY! NARUMI-SAN
AH, RIGHT!

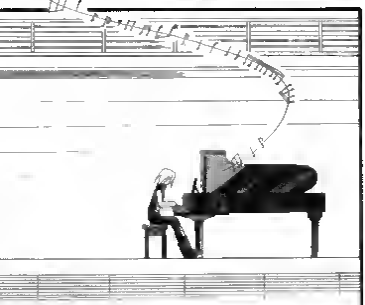
CAN YOU PLAY THE PIANO FOR ME ONCE MORE?
I KNOW NOW! YOU ARE
THE PRODIGY PIANO PLAYER KNOWN AS "THE PIANIST WITH THE ANGELIC HANDS" IN THE JAPANESE PIANO WORLD!
NEXT, IT'S THE ALL-PURPOSE KNIFE!
HMM
HEY
BE QUIET, I CAN'T HEAR THE PHONE NUMBER
A SEVEN PIECE ALL-PURPOSE KNIFE SET IS ON SALE RIGHT NOW!
IT COMES WITH THE OAK KNIFE-HOLDER AND NON-STICK CUTTING BOARD!!
SFX shake shake
がくがく
HEY, LISTEN TO ME!
HEY, YOU ARE ANNOYING!
WHY WOULD THEY GIVE AWAY A NON-STICK CUTTING BOARD WITH A SET OF KNIVES?

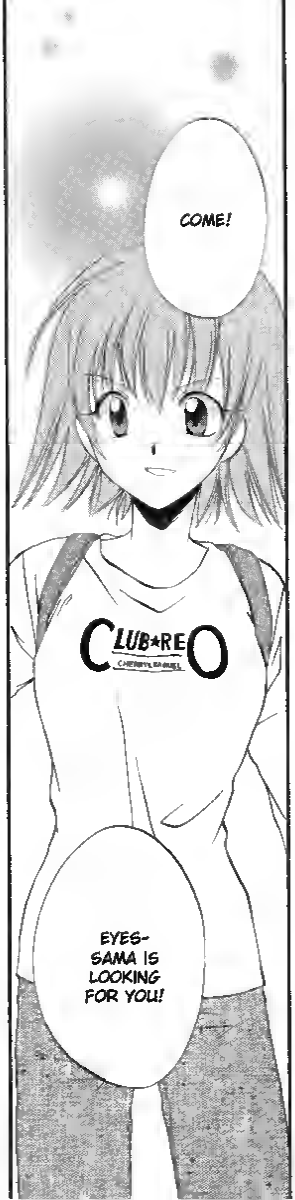
I DON'T PLAY THE PIANO ANYMORE
IF YOU WANT TO LISTEN, LISTEN TO THAT CD OVER THERE!
...
SNIFF
.....
AW...!
YOU ARE SO CRUEL...
EVEN WHEN I HAVE SACRIFICED SO MUCH FOR YOU, YOU ARE STILL SO COLD...
DOESN'T CARE AT ALL

no wonder it's called an all-purpose knife set. it even cut a thick dictionary in half
VERY ANGRY
DAMN YOU. HAVE A TASTE OF MY PUNCHES!
NARUMI'S LITTLE BROTHER, I'VE FOUND YOU!
SFX : ohhh








COME!
CLUB★REO
EYES-SAMA IS LOOKING FOR YOU!

WHAT?
THEY FOUND NARUMI'S LITTLE BROTHER?
KYAAA——!!

EYES-SAMA
!!!
SPARKLE!
KYAAA
!!
I WILL KEEP IT AS A FAMILY TREASURE!
WRITING
PLEASE SHAKE HANDS WITH ME, AND AN AUTO-GRAPH.
I'M A LOYAL FAN OF YOURS!
OK THEN, I'LL BE GOING
Is she really a university student?
I WILL COME AND SEE YOUR CONCERT LATER ON FOR SURE.
.....

YOU WENT THROUGH ALL OF THIS TROUBLE TO FIND ME,
WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU WANT?
PLAY IT!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
PLAY IT
I WANT TO HEAR AND SEE THE POTENTIAL OF THE SO-CALLED FAIRY TALE NARUMI FAMILY
.....

SFX gasp
I'M VERY SORRY
I GAVE UP PLAYING THE PIANO
DON'T SAY THAT!
SFX pull
YOUR HANDS ARE ALREADY TIED TO THE PIANO,
EVEN NOW, THEY ARE STILL THE SAME
.....

SFX. pulls away
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
ARE YOU THAT AFRAID, OF NOT BEING ABLE TO BE AS GOOD AS YOUR BROTHER?
ばっ
SFX. pause
ACTUALLY, YOU REALLY HAVE TALENT, BUT YOU ALSO KNOW THAT...
WITH EVERY-THING THAT YOU DO, YOU WILL ALWAYS BE YOUR BRO-THER'S SHADOW
IT'S LIKE AS THOUGH YOU CAN'T BE ORIGINAL
ヒヨ!

YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A FAILURE!
.....
SINCE YOU'VE COME ALL THIS WAY...
?!
WHY NOT PLAY SOMETHING SMALL?

SFX shuffle rustle
EYES RUTHERFORD...
YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A FAILURE!
DAMN YOU

SFX: Click
THAT GUY...
THIS ISN'T FUN
WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS...!?
HE HAS NO GUTS...
WHY DON'T I GIVE YOU A SPECIAL PRESENT!
SFX: ring ring
SFX: picks up
SECURITY OFFICE.
I HAVE GOOD NEWS!
SINCE THERE'S ONLY 5 MINUTES LEFT, I'LL MAKE THIS SHORT

I WAS BORED, SO I HAVE PLACED A BOMB IN THE CERE-MONIAL HALL
!!?
THERE ARE 200 GRAMS OF EXPLO-SIVES INSIDE
…
IT CAN BLOW OFF EVEN THE ROOF OF THIS BUILDING!
SFX: Foot-steps
SFX: Foot-steps
…
IS IT HERE ?
QUICK!
バタ
バタ
バタ
?
WHAT HAPPE-NED?
WHAT HAPPE-NED?
A... A BOMB!
GO THERE AND LOOK !

SFX: commotion
IDIOT... DON'T SAY IT SO LOUD
SFX: hitting a box
THE CRIMINAL JUST CALLED, AND SAID THERE WAS A BOMB INSIDE!
IT'S HERE
DI...DID YOU FIND IT?
WHAT'S THIS?

!?
HI, I'M A TURTLE FROM CHINA, MY NAME IS LUCKY
PLEASE REMEMBER IT!
TIME IS ALMOST UP...
YOU MUST BE NERVOUS, RIGHT?
BUT DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT DIFFUSING ME!
JUST A SMALL AMOUNT OF MOVEMENT AND I WILL EXPLODE
THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO STOP ME!
AND THAT IS TO ENTER 9 LETTERS!
THERE'S A KEYBOARD ON THE SIDE!
JUST ENTER THE 9 LETTERS IN A CERTAIN PATTERN AND EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE

SFX slams hand down
DON'T WORRY, IF YOU HAVE KNOWLEDGE, GUTS AND LUCK, YOU WILL GET THIS FOR SURE
THAT IS ALL!
THIS IS CRAZY!
I WILL BE EXTRA NICE THIS TIME, AND TELL YOU THE FIRST NUMBER
1
BUT THERE IS ONLY ONE ANSWER
IF YOU GET IT WRONG, I WILL EXPLODE
THE TIME WILL BE INCREASED BY 30 MINUTES
BUT IF YOU LET GO OF IT, I WILL EXPLODE
IT IS HEAT SENSITIVE
1
SEE THAT POLE ON THE BOX?
I WILL DO SOMETHING NICE AGAIN
JUST HOLD ONTO IT-------

JUST COME IF YOU AREN'T SCARED!
EVEN THE SMALLEST PIECE OF YOUR BODY WILL DISAP-PEAR!
IF THE CODE IS WRONG, YOU WILL BE BLOWN TO PIECES
WHOEVER HAS COURAGE, HOLD ONTO IT!
BUT DON'T THINK ABOUT RUNNING AWAY AFTER-WARDS!
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN AS GOOD AS YOUR BROTHER? YOU WERE ALWAYS A FAILURE!
GET SOMEONE TO HOLD THE STICK!
YOU WERE ALWAYS A FAILURE!
YOU WERE ALWAYS A FAILURE!
QUICK, THERE ONLY ONE MINUTE LEFT!
BU... BUT... IF...

SFX: machine whirling noise
SFX: beep
!!!

EVACUATE THE PEOPLE...
AND, PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE POLICE

NARUMI'S LITTLE BROTHER
.....
SFX: Kyaaaaaa
キャアアア
WHAT... WILL YOU DO...?
IN THIS SITUATION?

AND A LOT OF TIME HAS BEEN WASTED
EVEN THE BOMB SQUAD CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT
I DOUBT YOU ARE JUST PLAIN STUPID
WHY DID YOU DO SOMETHING SO DANGEROUS?
DON'T BE SO STUPID!
THE CRIMINAL SAID THAT ALL YOU NEED IS KNOWLEDGE AND GUTS
THEN, YOU CAN DO IT FOR SURE
WELL I'VE DONE IT AND,
BESIDES, THE BOMB WILL BE DIFFUSED!

JUST A TINY MISTAKE AND IT'S OVER
WHO WOULD BET ON THAT...
DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY WAYS THERE ARE TO ARRANGE THESE NUMBERS?
40320 WAYS!
OTHER THAN THE PATTERN OF THE NUMBERS...
WHAT OTHER HINTS WERE THERE?
WHAT DOES THE TURTLE REPRE-SENT?
HEY, NARUMI-SAN,
YOU ARE PRACTICING SECRETLY RIGHT?
YOU ALSO HAVE THE TALENT TO BE CALLED A TENSAI*, RIGHT?
WHY DID YOU SAY YOU THAT YOU GAVE UP ON PLAYING THE PIANO?
*NOTE: tensai = genius

I CAN'T ESCAPE MY BROTHER'S SHADOW
NO MATTER WHAT, I CAN'T BE ORIGINAL...
YOU SURE THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING CLEARLY
DIDN'T YOU HEAR WHAT THAT GUY SAID?
I JUST PLAYED LIKE I NORMALLY DO, AND UNCONCIOUSLY, THE RESULT IS THE SAME AS MY BROTHER'S
BUT...
I WOULD NEVER DO THAT ON PURPOSE
EVEN THE DAILY SUBJECTS, AND THE GIRLS I LIKE!!
ARE ALL LIKE BROTHER'S
AND, IT ISN'T JUST THE PIANO...

WE REALLY ARE BROTHERS!
BUT, MY BROTHER EXCELS IN EVERYTHING
NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY,
I CAN NEVER BEAT MY BROTHER
.....
AND THE PIANO
—
IT MAKES ME REMEMBER THE BAD MEMORIES I HAVE,
AND IT MAKES ME REMEMBER THAT I WANT THE SAME THINGS AS MY BROTHER
THAT'S WHY, I CAN'T CONTINUE PLAYING

BUT, I CAN'T SEEM TO STOP
BECAUSE I LOVE PLAYING THE PIANO,
EVEN PRACTICING IT UNTIL MY FINGER BREAKS IS OKAY.....
NARUMI, DO YOU HATE YOUR BROTHER?
.....
I RESPECT MY BROTHER
THERE IS NOTHING MY BROTHER CAN'T DO
HE KNOWS EVERYTHING
SFX realisation

SFX stands up
LET'S STOP TALKING
AND DIFFUSE THE BOMB!!
WAIT, BROTHER TOLD ME THIS BEFORE...
CHINESE TURTLE...
NINE KEYS!...
A SQUARE NUMBERS...
COULD IT BE!...

IT'S ABOUT A CHINESE FOLK TALE
THE EMPEROR OF THE XIA DYNASTY WAS WALKING ON THE RIVER BANK WHEN HE SAW A TURTLE,
THE TURTLE'S SHELL WAS DIVIDED INTO 9 PIECES, EVERY PIECE HAD DOTS ON THEM
REALLY?
IT WILL MAKE PEOPLE REMEMBER A NUMBER PATTERN
ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN OF THE KEYS,
THE TURTLE AND ITS NAME
THAT
AFTER LOOKING AT THE DOTS, THE EMPEROR FOUND THAT NO MATTER HOW HE ADDED THE DOTS, VERTICALLY, HORIZONTALLY, OR DIAGONALLY, THE SUM WOULD ALWAYS END UP BEING THE SAME
MYSTIC SQUARE FORMATION
ALSO CALLED THE SQUARE FORMATION, IT MEANS TO PLACE NUMBERS IN SQUARE SHAPE SO THAT, NO MATTER HOW THEY ARE ADDED VERTICALLY, HORIZONTALLY, OT DIAGONALLY, THE ANSWER WOULD ALWAYS BE 15
八 一 六
三 五 七
四 九 二
LATER ON, PEOPLE NAMED IT RAKUSHOU
IS THE INCREDIBLE MYSTIC SQUARE FORMATION

AND THERE ARE 2 POSSIBILITIES OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PATTERN THAT THE TURTLE TOLD US...
4 3 8
9 5 1
2 7 6
2 7 6
9 5 1
4 3 8
IN THIS FORMATION, THERE ARE 8 POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENTS
BUT, I DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE TO CHOOSE
WAY TO GO NARUMI-SAN!
NOW ALL WE NEED TO DO IS TO INSERT THE NUMBERS
IT'S ALL ABOUT "LUCK"...
IN THE END...
JUST LIKE THE TURTLE SAID...

DON'T WORRY!
YOU WON'T DIE SO EASILY
THERE'S AN EVEN CHANCE OF LIFE OR DEATH
DON'T HATE ME IF I GET IT WRONG!
!
HERE I GO!
SFX: tap

SFX beeeeeeeep
PHEW
.....
I JUST HOPE THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS WILL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN
AHHH
HOW LUCKY, TO ESCAPE FROM DEATH THIS TIME..
are you even listening?

Note otouto=younger brother

SONOBE-SAN
A LOT OF THINGS HAVE HAPPENED AFTER YOU WERE ATTACKED AT NOHARA-MIZUE
ANYWAY, YOU SAID BEFORE...
THAT YOU MET WITH NARUMI KIYOTAKA REGARDING THE BLADE CHILDREN!
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE "BLADE CHILDREN"?
I----
I PLANNED TO KILL NARUMI KIYOTAKA,
BUT WAS ALMOST KILLED BY HER INSTEAD.
!!
"BLADE CHILDREN"--
THEY ARE DANGEROUS PEOPLE...

INANE
#mangareaders@irc.mirc.com

Scanned by: Aligra
Translated by: kaisan
Edited by: Xylo
Proof-read by: Misao_chan

Chapter 8

Mysterious Rib Bone

Sonobe said...
Those kids are dangerous people, we must eliminate them all.
「Blade Children」 what does that mean?
The turtle said...
Congratulations, Narumi-otouto!
The "Blade Children" are waiting for you!

SFX. NOTICING

SFX. GLARE

SFX. BANG

YOU'RE THE TYPE OF PERSON THAT DOES NOT SUFFER FROM SUCH TRAUMATIC EVENTS!
ガクガク
ガクガク
YOU BETTER TELL ME EVERY-THING!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, SIS?
SFX: GRIN
SFX: SHAKE SHAKE
AFTER SONOBE WOKE UP, WHAT INFOR-MATION DID YOU GET?
もが
SFX: MUNCH
IT CONCERNS MY OLDER BROTHER
SO COME ON, TELL ME SOMETHING!
THAT DOES NOT CONCERN YOU
HMPH!
SFX: TURNS HEAD

CHILDREN SHOULDN'T MEDDLE IN ADULTS' AFFAIRS!
I WILL FIND KIYOTAKA-SAN.
.....
DON'T GIVE ME THAT!
EVEN AFTER TWO YEARS, THERE HASN'T BEEN A SHRED OF EVIDENCE.
I AM 16 ALREADY,
I CAN AT LEAST HELP YOU
YOU DON'T NEED TO ACT SO TOUGH ANYMORE!

TIME FOR WORK!
.....
BASTARD, RUNNING AWAY AGAIN!
COULD YOU PLEASE CLEAN IT UP?
SFX. STANDS UP
SFX. CUP SLAMMING DOWN
CHERRY&AQUEL

WHY DID YOU START LEARNING PIANO?
.....
I WANTED TO KILL THINGS.
EH?
THAT WAS WHEN I WAS 3 YEARS OLD!
BECAUSE I SAW THE ANTS. .
THE ANTS HAD FORMED A LINE, SO I PICKED THEM UP ONE BY ONE AND SQUASHED THEM
IT TOOK A REALLY LONG TIME

THEN AFTER THAT WERE BUTTERFLIES, CICADAE, CRICKETS...
AFTER I CAUGHT THEM, I SQUISHED THEM ALL.
WHEN I WAS 5, I USED METAL WIRES TO STRANGLE A HUSKY.
BUT, MY MOTHER REALISED THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION...
SFX | CUP FALLING AND BREAKING
Shoot!
SO IN ORDER TO STOP HER SON FROM KILLING, SHE FORCED HIM TO PRACTICE PIANO ALL DAY

ACTUALLY, IT WAS THE TRUTH
OF COURSE I AM JUST FOOLING YOU!
THAT'S IT.
IS... IS THAT SO...
WHAT DOES THAT REALLY MEAN, THE "CURSED CHILDREN"?
BECAUSE THE CHILDREN ARE ALL CURSED.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
THAT IS PRE-DESTINED.
TO KILL IS MY DESTINY.

NOHARA MIZUE
SHIRANAGATANI SAYOKO
TSUJII IKOU
ALL THREE OF THEM CLAIM THAT THEY ARE ONE OF THE "CURSED CHILDREN"
IT TOOK A LOT OF EFFORT JUST TO GET THAT INFORMATION
TRUE UP UNTIL NOW, TWO PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY DIED FOR THAT SECRET.
KIMOTORI-SAN ALSO DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE BECAUSE OF THIS INCIDENT...
BUT THEN, AGAIN-
OH, INSPECTOR.
LET'S JUST GIVE UP.

SONOBE REFUSED TO TALK AFTER THAT INCIDENT.
EVEN THE SUPERINTENDENT IS OBSERVING US
IF WE CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE ANY FURTHER, WE MIGHT BE IN TROUBLE
WATAYA, COULD YOU HELP ME WITH SOMETHING?
EH?
WHAT?
PLEASE THINK OF A WAY TO GET ME ..
THE X-RAY'S OF TSUJII IKOU AND SHIRANAGATANI SAYOKO'S CHEST.
.....
HMM... WHY WOULD YOU WANT THAT?

SFX. APPEAR
TURTLE TURTLE
I RE-READ NOHARA MIZUE'S AUTOPSY REPORT AND FOUND SOMETHING STRANGE...
MINI-TURTLE~
SMALL TURTLE~
LARGE TURTLE~
"YOU ARE UPSET!"
"EH, NARUMI-SAN!"
SFX. SHAKE

SFX: DEPRESSED
WHY ARE YOU SO MEAN...
"DO YOU WANT ME TO CHEER YOU UP?"
SHUT UP!
I AM REALLY WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
EVER SINCE YOU HEARD THAT TURTLE'S MESSAGE, YOU'VE CHANGED COMPLETELY
IF YOU KNEW THAT, WHY DID YOU BRING THAT TOY HERE?
To annoy me or pump me?
FUNNY
LOOK, IT IS SO CUTE! ♡
THE TURTLE IS INNOCENT!
SFX: SHOVED INTO THE FACE
WHAT'S THE CONNECTION EXACTLY?
THAT TURTLE
.....

CONGRATULATIONS NARUMI-OTOUTO!
IT CALLED ME "NARUMI-OTOUTO"...
FROM WHAT HE CALLED ME...

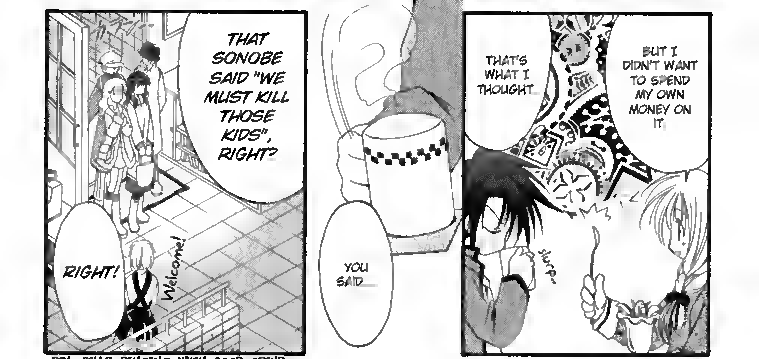
THE BOMBER SEEMS TO KNOW MY OLDER BROTHER.

I GUESS... THAT MUST BE IT!
AT LEAST YOU'LL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO GATHER INFORMATION ON YOUR OLDER BROTHER.
ISN'T THAT GOOD NEWS?
I DON'T LIKE FINDING THINGS OUT THIS WAY

WHY DO THEY WANT ME INVOLVED IN THIS?
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT MY OLDER BROTHER DISAPPEARED...
DID MY BROTHER TELL THEM ABOUT ME?
BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT TO INVOLVE ANYONE ELSE IN THE FAMILY
WHAT DOES HE WANT TO DO? WHAT IS THERE IN STORE FOR ME.
SFX: POUT
HMPH! YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO RUDE!
GO AWAY, DON'T BOTHER ME!
*A Japanese proverb. It means when the time comes or when the time is right, all will be well or all will be known.
SFX: HUG
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU THINK ABOUT IT, YOU CAN STILL FIGURE IT OUT!
WHEN THE BOAT ARRIVES AT THE HARBOR, IT NATURALLY LINES ITSELF UP.*

ふふふ
NARUMI-SAN, YOU OWE ME A LOT!
DON'T FORGET, MY EXCLUSIVE KNOWLEDGE HAS HELPED YOU A LOT!
SFX HEHEHE
SFX SHIVERS
WHY DID IT SUDDENLY BECOME SO COLD...
IF I WASN'T WITH YOU, YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO MUCH, RIGHT?
WAAH...
I HAVE NEWS CONCERNING SONOBE TAKASHI!
.....I GET IT NOW...

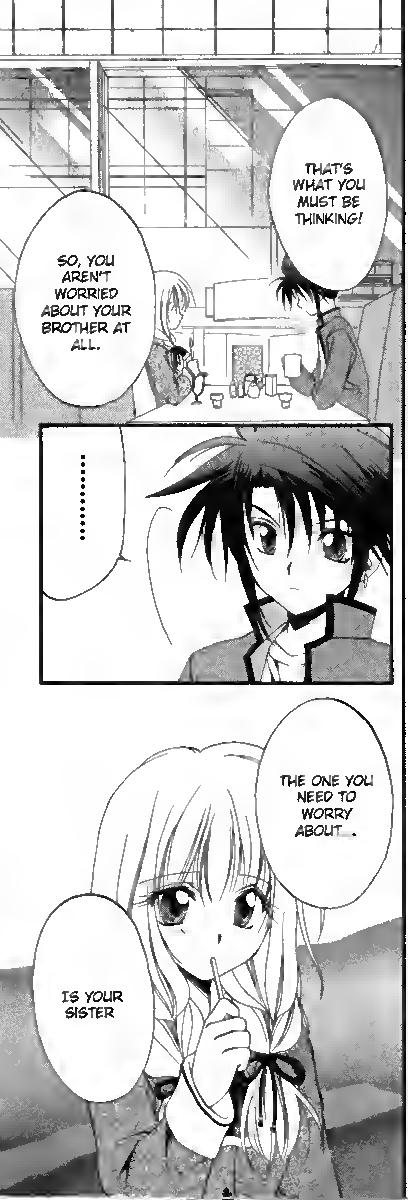
note: nattou is Fermented soybean



SFX. BELLS RINGING WHEN DOOR OPENS

ORIGINALLY, HE HAD PLANNED TO KILL NOHARA-SAN, BUT HE WAS INJURED BY HER INSTEAD
ALTHOUGH SONOBE-SAN HAD ALREADY REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS,
AFTER ONLY A FEW WORDS, HE BECAME CONFUSED AND THE DOCTORS SEDATED HIM.
AND WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT, WELL, YOU DON'T NEED ME TO TELL YOU
IS THAT THE ONLY CLUE?
NEWFORK
CHE! IT'S SUCH A SHAME TO HAVE SIS WASTE HER TWO YEARS OF INVESTIGATION
.....
NARUMI-SAN, WHY DO YOU WANT TO CHASE AFTER THE "BLADE CHILDREN"?

HE IS MY BROTHER.
IF HE DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE, OF COURSE I WOULD BE WORRIED.
!
THEN, WHY DO YOU WANT TO FIND YOUR BROTHER?
SO THAT'S WHY...
IT IS NOT AS IF I WANTED TO!
BECAUSE THAT IS THE ONLY CLUE TO MY BROTHER'S DISAPPEARANCE.
DON'T LIE!
NARUMI-SAN SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE
WHAT KIND OF GENIUS YOUR BROTHER WAS.


NO ONE COULD TELL HIM WHAT TO DO.
EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T SEARCH FOR HIM, HE WOULD STILL APPEAR UNHARMED.
THAT'S WHAT YOU MUST BE THINKING!
SO, YOU AREN'T WORRIED ABOUT YOUR BROTHER AT ALL.
.....
THE ONE YOU NEED TO WORRY ABOUT...
IS YOUR SISTER
THE ACTION OF LOOKING FOR HIM WOULD PROBABLY HINDER HIS WORK.

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT INFORMATION...
I ALREADY KNOW EVERYTHING
MADOKA-ONEESAN IS KIYOTAKA-ONIISAN'S WIFE
IN OTHER WORDS...
YOU AND YOUR SISTER ARE NOT RELATED BY BLOOD SHE IS YOUR SISTER-IN-LAW
MY BROTHER DISAPPEARED WITHIN A YEAR OF HIS MARRIAGE
WHEN MY SISTER FOUND OUT THAT HE HAD DISAPPEARED, SHE HAD A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN

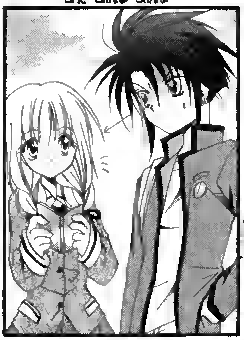
EVEN NOW, SHE OFTEN MISSES MY BROTHER.
THESE PAST TWO YEARS, SHE HAS TRIED DESPERATELY TO FIND MY BROTHER.
OFTEN, SHE WOULD CRY ALONE IN MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT...
IF WE DON'T FIND MY BROTHER SOON,
MY SISTER, SHE'LL.....
.....
NARUMI-SAN, THEN YOU REALLY LIKE YOUR SISTER-IN-LAW!

I REALLY CAN'T STAND SEEING HER IN SO MUCH PAIN.
THAT'S NOT IT!
EVEN IF WE WEREN'T RELATED BY BLOOD, I WOULD STILL SEE HER AS MY REAL SISTER.
I WORRY ABOUT HER SO MUCH...
.....
SFX: PLACES DOWN GENTLY
ABUSING THIS BROTHER-IN-LAW
YET SHE WOULD PUNCH AND KICK ME
SHE EVEN TREATS ME LIKE A SERVANT

HEY!
THAT GUY.....
ISN'T HE DETECTIVE WATAYA?
YOU TWO..
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
DID YOU GET THE LATEST NEWS ON THE "BLADE CHILDREN"?
DON'T ASK FOR INFORMATION RELATED TO THE POLICE!
ARA~!!!
Do you want to fight?
*Ara~ is an express on equivalent to "Oh"
SFX: SMILE
IS WHAT YOU SAID REALLY TRUE?

SFX. SHAKE SHAKE

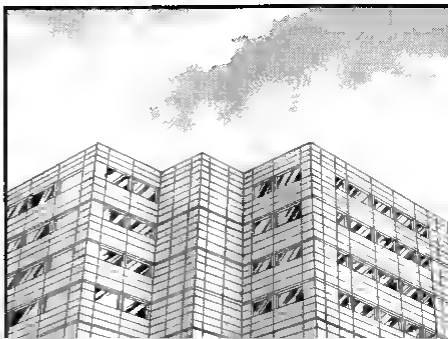
SFX. REALISATION



SFX. KICK

HEH HEH HEH...
I'M GLAD SHE'S NOT MY ENEMY...
ANYWAY--
IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION JUST TELL US!
I'm really looking forward to it
SPX. PAT
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU. ♡
E... EVIL...
ONE DAY I'LL KILL YOU!

...I'm bored.



SFX: FALLING ONTO THE BED
ぼす
YOU WENT OVER-BOARD WITH THAT BOMB.
THERE WASN'T A BOMB ANYWAY, SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT NARUMI-OTOUTO WAS SO SKILLED!
I CAN PLAY AROUND WITH HIM FOR A WHILE!
SFX: KUKUKU
SFX: GETS UP
BUT IN THE MEAN-TIME, WE NEED TO FIND SOME-THING TO DO RIGHT?
NOT TO HURRY, AND WAIT FOR AN OPPORTU-NITY...
DIDN'T KIYOTAKA-SAMA WARN US
OI, DON'T BOTHER HIM TOO MUCH...

BESIDES, I....
STILL DON'T HAVE ANY MEANS TO APPROVE NARUMI-OTOUTO.
WHY DO YOU WANT THESE X-RAYS?
AFTER I READ NOHARA MIZUE'S AUTOPSY REPORT, I FOUND A SECTION OF STRANGE DOCUMENTATION
Look!
NOHARA MIZUE IS MISSING A RIB BONE!

SO I WAS RIGHT!
"IT SEEMS LIKE IT WAS SURGICALLY REMOVED NOT LONG AFTER BIRTH."
I WAS VERY CURIOUS, SO I FOUND THE DOCTOR WHO DID THE AUTOPSY TO CONFIRM IT....
DETECTIVE, THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH THIS ONE TOO!
WHAT... WHAT IS THIS?
THOSE WHO ARE CALLED THE "BLADE CHILDREN". THEIR COMMONALITY IS:...

BUT, WHY?
THE PLACE WHERE THE RIB IS MISSING HURTS SO MUCH--
THE CURSED CHILDREN. THE DISTINCTION ON THEIR BODY IS CONSTANTLY IN PAIN...
SAYING "HAVE PATIENCE, WAIT FOR AN OPPORTU-NITY"...

DO YOU THINK THOSE WHO ARE CURSED...
ARE ABLE TO LAST VERY LONG?
SNL WILD HUNTING
WAH!
MNDM
SPL AH!
DID YOU.... DID YOU SEE THAT?
HIGH SCHOOLERS SHOULDN'T WEAR CLOTHES WITH SUCH A FLOWERY PATTERN!

WHAT DOES "BLADE CHILDREN" MEAN?

INANE
#MANGAREADERS
HTTP://INANE.MANGAREADERS.COM
Scanned by : Aliera
Translated by : Antoine
Edited by : XpLo
Proof-read by : Misao_chan

SO THEN...

KILLING IS FATED BY DESTINY.

"BLADE CHILDREN". WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN?

Brought to you
by Inane:
#mangareaders

CHAPTER 9 : HAPPINESS OF THE BELIEVER (PART 1)

Scanner: Alicra
Translator: shuffleg
Editor: Camera
Proofer: Misao_chan

SO NOW YOU UNDERSTAND
YES

SO IF NARUMI-OTOUTO WAS TO LOSE HIS LIFE IN MY GAME, WOULD IT MATTER?
.....
I ALREADY GOT PERMISSION FROM KIYOTAKA
GEEZ
THIS BROTHER IS PRETTY RUTHLESS

AN IRIS ?
IT'S AN ORDER FROM KIYOTAKA
THE NEXT TIME YOU MAKE A MOVE,
REMEMBER TO LEAVE SOME OF THESE FLOWERS
.....

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU LIKED IRISES.
IT'S KINDA SURPRISING AND IT FEELS OLD FASHIONED
MADOKA
DO YOU KNOW THE MEANING OF THE IRIS?

ゴロ～ン
HMM MM...
AHH I'M GONNA SLEEP IN FOR ANOTHER 10 MINUTES...
GET UP! IT'S TIME TO EAT!
I DON'T WANNA!
HURRY UP!
SZK

SERIOUSLY, YOU'RE AN ADULT ALREADY BUT YOU'RE STILL LIKE THIS
RINNNG
RINNNG
RING RING RING...
THIS IS NARUMI MADOKA
WHAT? THE MIYASHITA HOSPITAL?
SONOBE TAKASHI WAS MURDERED ?!

ザワ
ザワ
ザワ
EXCUSE ME
!!

WHAT HAPPENED...
HOW DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS?
THIS IS JUST TOO CRUEL!

THE MURDERER GAGGED THE VICTIM'S MOUTH AND TIED UP HIS ARMS AND LEGS...
THE VICTIM WAS STABBED ALL OVER HIS BODY
HE THEN LEFT THE VICTIM,
MAKING HIM SUFFER IN PAIN, AND THEN HE CUT OPEN THE VICTIM'S THROAT, ENDING HIS LIFE
I HEARD THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS THE MASSIVE LOSS OF BLOOD
THE ESTIMATED TIME OF DEATH WAS BETWEEN 2-3 A.M
WHY DID THIS HAPPEN!
WHY DID ALL THE CLUES LINKED TO KIYOTAKA-SAN DISAPPEAR?

THE MURDERER'S METHOD OF KILLING IS REALLY SICK
THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM JUST HATE...
RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING, HE PLANNED TO TORTURE THE VICTIM FOR HIS OWN SATISFACTION
SO IN OTHER WORDS, THE MURDERER IS A MERCILESS AND SADISTIC PERSON
AYUMU!
WHY ARE YOU HERE!?
DO YOU STILL HAVE TO ASK...
WHEN YOU ANSWERED THE PHONE I WAS RIGHT [illegible] TO YOU!

OH MY! THERE'S BLOOD EVERYWHERE...
AHHH!
YOU ACTUALLY DITCHED CLASS!
NO EXCUSES!
DON'T GET ALL PHYSICAL NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO BE ARGUING!
SORRY TO INTERRUPT!
THE PIG-TAILED GIRL CAME ALONG TOO!
WHA..!
IT'S SO DISGUSTING!
I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO COME!
HEY!
HOW COME YOU'RE HERE?

TRADE SECRET!
THIS IS A...
I'M SICK OF THAT PHRASE
HM?
I DID NO SUCH THING!
YOU COULDN'T HAVE PUT A LISTENING DEVICE IN MY HOUSE, COULD YOU?
SIR!
MA'AM!

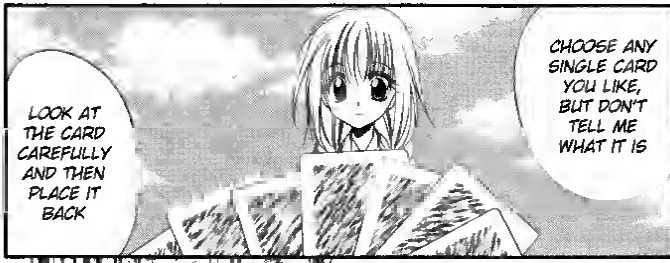
SIS, WHY DON'T YOU BELIEVE ME?
GET OUT!
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN FIND OUR BROTHER BY YOURSELF?
HMPH, ENOUGH WITH THIS CRAP
GET BACK TO SCHOOL NOW!

IT HURTS...
HM...
BOTH DITCHED CLASS TODAY
NARUMI-SAN, LOOK!
THERE ARE A LOT OF PIGEONS!

THERE ARE SO MANY!
WHAT'S SO EXCITING ABOUT PIGEONS?
THEY'RE SO PLAIN AND AREN'T CUTE AT ALL!
NARUMI-SAN
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO COLD?
HEH, WHY SHOULD I BE NICE AND GENTLE TOWARDS YOU?
OH, REALLY?
I UNDERSTAND NOW!
?
MISS
MISS, COULD YOU LEND ME SOME OF YOUR TIME?

HUH ?
ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?
YES
WOW...
YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE!
TELL THAT TO THE USELESS GUY SITTING OVER THERE
MISS, YOU'RE AN INTERESTING PERSON!
HEY, PLAY A SIMPLE GAME WITH ME!
?

THERE ARE 7 CARDS HERE.


CHOOSE ANY SINGLE CARD YOU LIKE, BUT DON'T TELL ME WHAT IT IS
LOOK AT THE CARD CAREFULLY AND THEN PLACE IT BACK

AND THEN LET ME GUESS WHAT CARD YOU CHOSE
LET'S SEE IF I GET IT RIGHT!
IT LOOKS REALLY FUN
IT IS!
THIS HELPS TRAIN A PERSON'S OBSERVATION SKILLS

HEY, DO YOU WANT TO PLAY?
IF I WERE TO GUESS WRONG, I'LL GIVE YOU THIS CANTISOCIAL LOOKING CHICK) DOLL I GOT FROM AN ARCADE AS A PRESENT
I DON'T WANT IT! THAT DOLL IS TOO WEIRD!
REALLY...
It's not cute at all!
YOU CAN'T CHEAT!
ALRIGHT THEN! HOW ABOUT I TREAT YOU TO A CAN OF FRUIT JUICE?
OK, PICK A CARD!

HMM... A SINGLE NUMBER CARD WOULD BE HARDER TO GUESS!
LET ME SEE...
.....
WHICH CARD SHOULD I CHOOSE
ALRIGHT, THIS ONE THEN
FIRST OF ALL, THE THREE ACES WILL BE ELIMINATED
WHY?
BECAUSE MOST PEOPLE WOULD CHOOSE A CARD THAT IS HARD TO GUESS
AMONG THE 7 CARDS, THERE ARE 3 ACES
SO A LOT OF PEOPLE WOULD GIVE UP THE ACES AND INSTEAD CHOOSE FROM THE REMAINING 4 CARDS

YOU HAVE TO BE AN ODD PERSON OR OVERLY HONEST TO CHOOSE AN ACE
I CAN TELL YOU'RE NOT AN OVERLY HONEST PERSON,
NOR AN ODD ONE
ALRIGHT
THERE ARE 4 CARDS LEFT
THE CARD IN YOUR HAND IS...
THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS...
NO...
IT'S THE 2 OF SPADES!

DO I HAVE THAT SORT OF PERSONALITY THAT CAN BE SO EASILY GUESSED?
HA!
ACTUALLY, A GIRL'S PERSONALITY ISN'T SO HARD TO SEE THROUGH
PRETTY GIRL...

ぽこ
DON'T TALK TO WEIRD STRANGERS!
AH! NARUMI-SAN
THE WORDS YOU SAID BACK THERE WERE TOO CUNNING!
THE MOMENT YOU SAID THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS, YOU LOOKED AT HER REACTION
THEN FROM HER REACTION, YOU GUESSED AGAIN
IN THE BEGINNING WHEN YOU ELIMINATED THE ACES, YOU USED THE SAME METHOD
YOU'RE CORRECT!
I WAS able TO NARROW DOWN THE FIELD TO HALF THAT'S PRETTY GOOD
BUT YOU ONLY GET ONE CHANCE TO GUESS THE CORRECT ANSWER
おおぜい

I WAS 100% SURE THIS MISS WOULD NOT CHOOSE THE KING OF SPADES OR THE 10 OF HEARTS
OH... OK, OK! I'LL TELL YOU THE TRUTH
IT'S BECAUSE YOU SHOULD FEEL A SENSE OF UNEASINESS ABOUT THE TWO CARDS, SO YOU'D AUTOMATICALLY AVOID THEM
I THINK THE BOTH OF YOU...
WERE AT THE SCENE OF THE MURDER OF SONOBE TAKASHI RIGHT?
!?

!!
THE DROPS OF BLOOD SPREAD ACROSS THE FLOOR...
IT LOOKS SIMILIAR TO THE 10 OF HEARTS DESIGN
SO, WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE 10 OF HEARTS, YOU FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE
THE KING IS HOLDING A SWORD
THE NEXT IS THE KING OF SPADES!

AFTER SEEING THE STABBED BODY OF THE VICTIM,
AND THEN SEEING THE SWORD CARRYING KING... YOU'D FEEL IT'S DISTASTEFUL!
.....
THE KNIFE USED TO CUT THE THROAT OF SONOBE TAKASHI, SHOULD LOOK SIMILIAR TO THIS ONE
ヒョイ
!!
COULD YOU ACTUALLY BE...

ASAZUKI
ASAZUKI KOUSUKE
ONE OF THE "BLADE CHILDREN" ...
!!
HEY DO YOU WANT TO FEEL THE AREA AROUND MY CHEST?
TO SEE IF I'M ACTUALLY MISSING A RIB!

?
THAT'S THE COMMON LINK MADOKA-ONEESAN FOUND BETWEEN THE "BLADE CHILDREN"
FOR EACH CHILD KNOWN AS ONE OF THE "BLADE CHILDREN", FOR SOME REASON AFTER THEY ARE BORN, ONE OF THEIR RIBS ARE REMOVED
YOU KILLED SONOBE TAKASHI?
THAT'S CORRECT!
ニヤ…

DID YOU KNOW?
THAT BASTARD PLANNED TO KILL ALL OF THE "BLADE CHILDREN"
I HAD TO MAKE THE FIRST MOVE
THAT'S THE BEST DEFENSE!
HOLD ON, DON'T CALL THE POLICE JUST YET
!
HEHE, YOU SHOULD HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS YOU WANT TO ASK ME RIGHT?
!!

NARUMI-OTOUTO, WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW THE MEANING OF THE "BLADE CHILDREN"?
AND WHAT THE CURSED AND MARKED CHILDREN ARE ALL ABOUT?
I ALSO HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT NARUMI KIYOTAKA!
YOU WOULDN'T JUST GIVE ME THIS INFO FOR NOTHING RIGHT?
OF COURSE I HAVE CONDITIONS!
IT'S SIMPLE
YOU STILL REMEMBER THE INCIDENT OF THE EXPLOSION AT THE MAHOU JIN DON'T YOU?
IT'S THE SAME AS THAT
I WANT TO TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE, YOUR COURAGE AND LUCK

IF YOU WERE TO WIN THIS GAME, I'LL ANSWER ALL OF YOUR QUESTIONS.
BUT IF I WERE TO FAIL?
THEN THERE WILL BE SOME DANGER
HUH?
FOR EXAMPLE
ぽん
LIKE THIS.
AHHH
A HORNET?

HIYA!
さっ
NARUMI-SAN...
YOU JUST USED ME AS A HUMAN SHIELD...
HM?
THANKS FOR SAVING ME
HMPH!
YOU'RE A LOSER! YOU ACTUALLY HID BEHIND A GIRL'S BACK!
HOLD A SECOND!
HEAR ME OUT FIRST!
WHERE... DID YOU GET THAT THING FROM?
LISTEN CAREFULLY!
HORNETS ARE VERY DANGEROUS

※アナフィラキシー…アレルギー反応の一種。生体にとって異物（抗原）が体内に入ると、それを排除するために抗体ができ、生体を守るのだが、この作られた抗体が、再度同じ抗原が体内に入ったとき、ショック死をもたらすケースがある。

IF YOU SAW A HORNET, YOU COULD RUN AWAY IMMEDIATELY!
THIS SHOULD BE SAFER THAN A BOMB THOUGH!
WHEN THE TIME COMES... PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE LOCATION OF THE GAME
THERE'S A NOTE INSIDE THE DOLL,
THE GAME WILL BEGIN IN AN HOUR!
THE GAME WILL SEEM SIMPLE IF YOU HAVE THE COURAGE
YOU SHOULD BE PREPARED
EVEN IF IT COSTS YOU YOUR LIFE TO LEARN THE SECRET BEHIND THE "BLADE CHILDREN"!

WAI... WAIT, ASAZUKI KOUSUKE!
HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT I WAS AFRAID OF HORNETS?
I NEVER TOLD ANYBODY ABOUT THIS FEAR, NOT EVEN MY SISTER OR MY PARENTS KNOW!
YOUR BROTHER TOLD ME!
DID YOU STILL HAVE TO ASK!
!?

ASK KIYOTAKA YOURSELF!
WHAT'S MY BROTHER TRYING TO DO?
WHAT DOES HE WANT WITH ME?
EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIYOTAKA IS THINKING!
HA HA HA HA !!
THIS TIME IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD
THIS MEETING WAS NOT BY CHANCE
I KNOW
BUT, SINCE SONOBE WAS KILLED, THIS IS THE QUICKEST WAY TO FINDING MY BROTHER...
I DON'T CARE IF IT'S DANGEROUS OR NOT

LAST TIME DURING THE BOMB INCIDENT, YOU WERE SCARED TO DEATH. NOW SUDDENLY YOU AREN'T AFRAID OF ANYTHING ...
ALSO, THIS GUY...
WILL DEFINITELY NOT LET ME OFF SO EASILY!
ALRIGHT, MOVE OUT THE BODY

HUH?
!!
WHAT'S THAT?

THE MEANING OF THE IRIS IS
MADOKA ...
"HAPPINESS OF THE BELIEVER"...
NARUMI-OTOUTO ...
GIVE ME A REASON TO BELIEVE IN YOU.

IT'S LIKE WHAT KIYOTAKA SAID,
THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT YOU CAN SAVE THE "BLADE CHILDREN"...
DON'T GET KILLED AT A TIME LIKE THIS
IF IT'S TRUE...

SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: SEIALEIR
EDITOR: ELRIC-KUN
PROOFER: MISAO CHAN

BROUGHT TO YOU BY INANE:
#MANGAREADERS@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE HAPPINESS
ONE MUST BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES AND OTHERS
IN ONE'S STRENGTH
IN GOD'S BLESSINGS
IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO BELIEVE
THE MEANING OF IRIS IN THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS IS 'HAPPINESS OF THE BELIEVER
PEOPLE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE WILL NEVER SURPASS FATE

KIYOTAKA...
WHAT YOU MEANT...
WAS FOR ME TO BELIEVE IN SOMETHING...?
HERE AT LAST

THE WASPS SEEM TO BE IN A GOOD MOOD
HAVE A LOOK ABOUT MY OLDER BROTHER ...
YOU BETTER COME CLEAN ABOUT EVERYTHING
!!!

BECAUSE OF THE DROP IN BIRTH-RATES, LOADS OF ABANDONED ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS CAN BE FOUND
COME WITH ME!
THIS IS ONE OF THEM
V.I.P ROOM
WE CAME IN HERE WITHOUT PERMISSION
SO WE WILL HAVE TO BE VERY QUIET

WE HAVE ARRIVED
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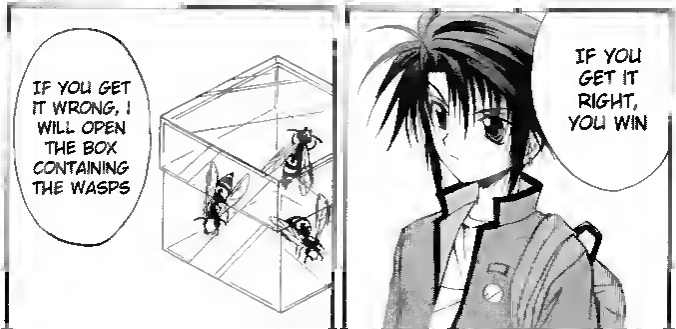
I'VE ALREADY HAD THIS PLACE CLEANED UP, HOWEVER PLEASE BEAR WITH THE SMELL
SORRY THAT I DID NOT PREPARE A CHAIR FOR THE LADY
SPEAK UP!
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
LET'S DO .. WHAT I DID IN THE PARK...
GUESS POKER CARDS !

I WILL DRAW A CARD OUT OF THIS DECK OF 52 CARDS
YOUR JOB WILL BE TO GUESS WHAT I HAVE CHOSEN


IF YOU GET IT RIGHT, YOU WIN
IF YOU GET IT WRONG, I WILL OPEN THE BOX CONTAINING THE WASPS

EVEN IF YOU OPEN THE BOX, THE WASPS MIGHT NOT NECESSARILY ATTACK ME
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT
THE PIECE OF PAPER YOU TOOK,
HAS BEEN ALREADY COATED WITH A SUBSTANCE THAT ATTRACTS WASPS
THEREFORE THEY WILL SURELY COME AFTER YOU
THIS GAME IS TOTALLY UNFAIR TO US!
WE'RE PRACTI-CALLY BETTING ON OUR LIVES!
RIGHT!
THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT IT SHOULD BE LIKE

YOU CAN ASK ME FOUR QUESTIONS
I WILL EITHER ANSWER 'YES' OR 'NO'
YOUR CHANCES WILL AT LEAST IMPROVE BY 1/52 FOR EVERY QUESTION THAT YOU ASK
YOU CAN ASK ANY QUESTION THAT WILL SHOW WHAT I AM THINKING
YOU CAN ALSO CONFIRM MY ANSWERS AGAIN BEFORE YOU DECIDE
HOW ABOUT IT?

YOU HAVEN'T PROMISED THAT YOU WOULD NOT LIE IN YOUR ANSWERS
DON'T WORRY, I'LL ANSWER TRUTHFULLY AND WON'T BREAK ANY RULES
AFTER ALL, A GAME WILL ONLY BE FUN IF IT IS FAIR.
THE BOMB INCIDENT WAS THE SAME, WASN'T IT?
.....
SO?
YOU CAN ALWAYS BACK OUT
——BUT..
YOUR BROTHER KIYOTAKA GUESSED IT EASILY UNDER THE SAME TERMS

SO... WHAT IS YOUR DECISION? ARE YOU GOING TO RUN AWAY?
FOR YOU WHO CANNOT MATCH UP TO KIYOTAKA, THIS MATCH WOULD BE A REAL CHALLENGE
THIS IS YOUR DAGGER
TAKE IT BACK!

NARUMI-SAN...
I ACCEPT THIS MATCH
IF MY OLDER BROTHER CAN DO IT, SO CAN I!

THIS CARD DICTATES YOUR FATE
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トン
ASK THE QUESTIONS!
GUESS THE CARD WITH EASE LIKE YOUR OLDER BROTHER
.....
THERE... THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM!
NARUMI-SAN WILL SURELY PASS THIS SAFELY LIKE THE BOMB INCIDENT!
THERE ARE FOUR CHANCES
POKER CARDS HAVE SET COLOURS AND PATTERNS
THE SAME APPLIES TO THE NUMBERS, THERE ARE ONLY 13 KINDS

SO IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GET IT WRONG TOTALLY!
I KNOW
AND YOU CAN ALSO ASK QUESTIONS IN RELATION TO WHAT HE IS THINKING
ALL OF THIS INCREASES THE CHANCES OF DETERMINING THE CARD
.....
YOUR BROTHER ASKED ONLY ONE QUESTION
OH, LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT AN INTERESTING THING
LET ME ASK THE FIRST QUESTION

AND ENDED THE GAME WITHOUT ANY HESITATION
HE GOT IT CORRECT WITH THAT ONE QUESTION
!!

IT WILL PROBABLY BE SAFER IF YOU ASK FOUR QUESTIONS
BUT THEN AGAIN, YOU WOULD LOSE TO KIYOTAKA
DO YOU WISH TO USE THIS CHANCE TO PROVE YOURSELF?
I BELIEVE, WITH YOUR INTELLIGENCE, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO RIVAL YOUR BROTHER
CAN YOU DO THE SAME?

YOU WILL LOSE TO YOUR BROTHER AGAIN!
NARUMI-SAN
DON'T FALL INTO HIS TRAP!
YOU WILL DIE IF THE WASPS MANAGE TO STING YOU!
!!
IT WOULD BE TOO DANGEROUS IF YOU ONLY ASKED ONE QUESTION!
HEY, I HEARD ABOUT SOMETHING!
YOUR FIRST CRUSH WAS SNATCHED BY KIYOTAKA!
HOWEVER, YOU KEPT QUIET AND TOLERATED EVERYTHING

DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT HE SAYS
WHAT WAS LOST WILL BE REPLACED
THE NEXT RELATIONSHIP WILL BE A BETTER ONE!
OKAY
I WILL DO THE SAME AND ONLY ASK ONE QUESTION!
ミヤリ
WE ARE DONE FOR...
THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A TRAP
THAT GUY MADE USE OF DIRTY TACTICS TO ROUSE NARUMI-SAN'S EMOTIONS

!
NO MATTER HOW LUCKY NARUMI-SAN IS...IN HIS CURRENT STATE..
YOU'D ALREADY DECIDED ON THE CARD BEFORE THE GAME BEGAN RIGHT?
ASAZUKI...
CORRECT!
GOOD JOB ON FINDING OUT
THAT CONCLUDES THE QUESTIONING
HAHA
HOWEVER, YOUR QUESTION IS DIFFERENT TO WHAT KIYOTAKA ASKED

ANSWER ME
JUST LIKE YOUR BROTHER!
WHICH CARD DID I CHOOSE?
NARUMI-SAN!
DON'T LET HIS WORDS GET THE BETTER OF YOU!
NARUMI-SAN!!

ANSWER NOW!
.....
ASAZUKI...
YOU'D ALREADY ASSUMED THAT YOU HAD WON HAVEN'T YOU?
!?

WHAT?
DID MY BROTHER SAY SOMETHING LIKE...
"YOU'RE A TROUBLESOME GUY AREN'T YOU?"
FROM HOW SONOBE WAS KILLED AND YOUR WORDS & ACTIONS JUST NOW, IT IS NOT HARD TO GUESS THAT YOU ARE DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH
I WON'T ASK THE SAME QUESTION MY BROTHER DID
BECAUSE YOU ARE INDEED A TROUBLE-SOME GUY
ACTUALLY, YOU NEVER DID HAVE TO RESORT TO LYING
YOU WOULD RATHER LIE TO AN ENEMY THAN REVEAL ANY USEFUL INFORMATION
IN ORDER TO TRICK SOMEONE

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE GAME, YOU NONCHALANTLY PICKED OUT A JOKER CARD.
WHY DID YOU DO THAT?
IN PICKING A CARD, AREN'T YOU BENEFITING ME BY MAKING IT EASIER FOR ME TO
IT'S A PITY THOUGH, YOU'RE NOT THAT NICE OF A PERSON
THAT BEING THE CASE, THEN YOU MUST HAVE A REASON...
スッ
IN OTHER WORDS .....
AH...THE PATTERN ON THE BACK!
THIS IS A JOKER CARD FROM ANOTHER DECK OF CARDS!
YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING WHEN YOU DREW OUT THIS JOKER CARD
AND DIDN'T SAY THAT THE JOKER WAS NOT TO BE USED IN THE GAME, OR IF ONLY ONE DECK OF CARDS WAS ALLOWED

IT IS TRUE THAT IN THIS GAME...
YOU HAVE NOT LIED AT ALL FROM THE BEGINNING TILL THE END
THERE ARE 52 CARDS IN A DECK OF POKER CARDS, SO IF ONE CARD WAS TAKEN OUT PRIOR TO THE GAME..
THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CARDS IS STILL 52
BECAUSE THE CARD OF FATE YOU'VE CHOSEN HIDES THE JOKER CARD
YOU'D ALREADY LAID OUT YOUR TRAPS AND HAVE CHOSEN THE CARD OF FATE BEFOREHAND
MADE YOU THINK THAT YOU WOULD SURELY WIN THE GAME
THE DECOY YOU HAVE PREPARED ....

SO YOU RECKON THAT I'LL CONTINUE WITH THESE SIMPLE SLEIGHT OF HANDS?
BUT IN THIS GAME OF LIFE AND DEATH, IS IT NOT TOO UNPERSUA-SIVE?
AM I THAT DIFFICULT OF A GUY?
YOUR THEORY HAS MERIT...
BUT OF COURSE!
THIS CARD IS ....
I BELIEVE IN MY LOGIC
I BELIEVE IT SO MUCH THAT I'M WILLING TO STAKE MY LIFE

THE JOKER
NARUMI-SAN, YOU GOT IT!!
!!
NOW, TELL ME ABOUT MY BROTHER!
HEHE ...

HAHA HAA ...
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
HAHA HAHA HAHA ....
EVEN THE WAY YOU SPEAK IS INDENTICAL TO HIM!
YOU ARE INDEED HIS BLOOD BROTHER !
YOU AND KIYOTAKA BOTH USED THE SAME METHOD TO DEDUCE THE CARD OF FATE.
LET'S GO NEXT DOOR
WE HAVE LOTS TO TALK ABOUT
VERY WELL ...

COME ON IN
LET'S HAVE A NICE CHAT
!?
SFX: SLAM

NOW THE SECOND ROUND BEGINS!
I NEVER SAID THAT THERE WAS ONLY ONE ROUND TO THIS GAME!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ASAZUKI?!
THERE IS SOMETHING OVER THERE NARUMI-SAN
!!
AND THEN ALL 38 WASPS WILL BE RELEASED IN AN INSTANCE
IF I PRESS THE SWITCH ON MY REMOTE CONTROL, THE GLASS CASE WILL OPEN UP
THE SAME GOES FOR THE WINDOWS
THE DOOR LEADING TO THE CORRIDOR HAS AN AUTOMATED LOCK AND NOW IT IS LOCKED

WHAT ARE YOU TESTING ME ON THIS TIME?!
I WANT YOU TO AVOID ALL THE WASPS IN THIS ENCLOSED SPACE FOR 10 MINUTES
IF YOU'RE LUCKY ENOUGH, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO ESCAPE!
THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS! YOU'RE TOYING WITH OUR LIVES!
ASAZUKI! DO YOU WANT ME DEAD OR SOMETHING?

IF YOU CAN'T ESCAPE, THEN DIE!
SFX: BEEP
YOU DON'T HAVE THE ABILITY TO SAVE US BLADE CHILDREN ANYWAY!
I DON'T TRUST ANYONE ...

TRUST WILL ONLY LEAD TO BETRAYAL
GOD'S BLESSINGS... THATS BULLSHIT...
THAT NEVER BELONGED TO US BLADE CHILDREN IN THE FIRST PLACE
NARUMI-OTOUTO

THE SAME GOES FOR YOU!
CAN YOU EVADE THE ATTACKS OF 38 WASPS?
PERISH IN PAIN AND AGONY FROM THE STINGS!
SFX: HAHAHAHAHA

I'M SORRY...
!?
I CAN'T DIE YET!
I ALREADY KNEW YOU WERE A TROUBLE-SOME GUY
WHEN YOU RELEASED THAT WASP IN THE PARK, I'D ALREADY GUESSED YOUR NEXT STEP
WHAT ...
HOW DID YOU GET OUT?
YOU COULDN'T HAVE OPENED THOSE LOCKS
DIDN'T I ALREADY TOLD YOU?

OF COURSE I HAD TO SECURE AN ESCAPE ROUTE
I ANTICIPATED THIS MOVE
IF YOU HAD WANTED TO USE WASPS TO THREATEN ME, YOU WOULD USE A LARGE NUMBER OF THEM
THEN I SAW A SUITABLE ENCLOSED ROOM FOR YOUR TACTIC
I ALREADY KNEW THAT YOU WOULD LOCK THE DOOR
SO I DELIBERATELY STUFFED SOMETHING INTO THAT DOOR'S LOCKING MECHANISM
THE PIECE OF PAPER YOU GAVE ME, I MADE IT INTO A BALL...
SO BECAUSE OF THIS, THE AUTOMATED LOCK WAS RENDERED USELESS
AND I ESCAPED EASILY
NOW KEEP YOUR END OF THE BARGAIN
TELL ME EVERTHING

ALTHOUGH I DO NOT LIE, I DO NOT KEEP MY PROMISES EITHER
NARUMI-OTOUTO
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU THIS
!!!

LATER! NARUMI-OTOUTO!
SFX: HAHAHAHAHA
はーっはっはっはっ
!!
WAIT
HOLD ON ASAZUKI!
YOU CAN'T JUST RUN AWAY LIKE THIS!
DAMN!
HE STILL GOT AWAY IN THE END

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY ARE THINKING ABOUT
NO MATTER WHETHER IT'S MY BROTHER OR THOSE PEOPLE...
IT LOOKS LIKE MY BROTHER IS STILL ALIVE AND HE WANTS ME TO DO SOMETHING FOR HIM
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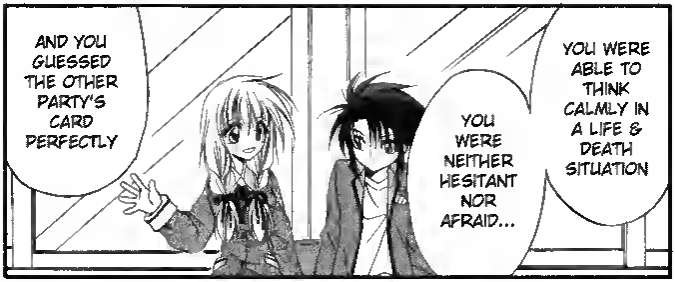
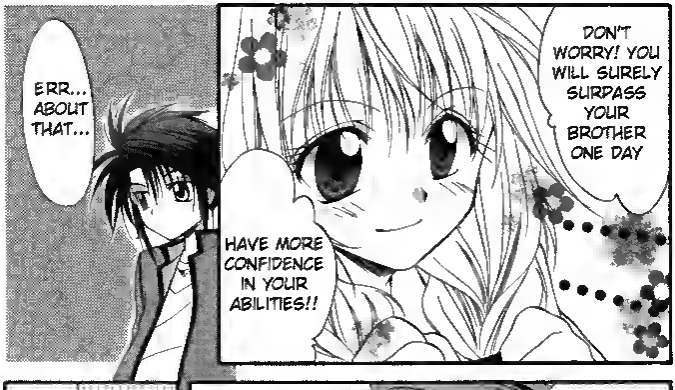
YOU GUESSED HIS CARD CORRECTLY!
YOU'RE AMAZING NARUMI-SAN
HUH?


AND YOU GUESSED THE OTHER PARTY'S CARD PERFECTLY
YOU WERE NEITHER HESITANT NOR AFRAID...
YOU WERE ABLE TO THINK CALMLY IN A LIFE & DEATH SITUATION


ERR... ABOUT THAT...
HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR ABILITIES!!
DON'T WORRY! YOU WILL SURELY SURPASS YOUR BROTHER ONE DAY

WHAT?
I USED A LITTLE TECHNIQUE
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PRAISE ME, I DIDN'T GUESS HIS CARD BY LOGIC

HERE, LOOK AT THIS KNIFE
THE BLADE IS WELL POLISHED, JUST LIKE A MIRROR
SO YOU USED THAT...
SO WHEN I DECIDED TO PLAY HIS GAME...
I DELIBERATELY STUCK THE KNIFE AT A POSITION WHERBY THE REFLECTION WOULD ENABLE ME TO SEE HIDDEN CARD
AND I FEIGNED ANGER IN ORDER TO HAVE HIM NOT TO BE SUSPICIOUS OF MY ACTIONS
A GLANCE AT THE KNIFE SHOWED ME HIS HIDDEN CARD
OF COURSE I WASN'T WORRIED AFTER SEEING HIS CARD
THAT'S GREAT TOO!
THEN WHAT WAS THE LOGICAL THEOREM FOR?

I WON'T BELIEVE THAT I HAVE ANY LUCK NOR TRUST IN MY ABILITY
I WAS ONLY ACTING !
IF HE HAD DISCOVERED THAT I WAS CHEATING ALL ALONG, THE GAME RESULTS WOULD HAVE BEEN FORFEITED
BUT MY BROTHER WOULDN'T HAVE NEEDED TO CHEAT
IF HE BELIEVED IN SOMETHING, HE WOULD HAVE DONE IT PERFECTLY
AND HE HAS NEVER MADE ANY MISTAKES
I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO SURPASS BY OWN BROTHER

I'VE SAID SO MANY UNNECES-SARY THINGS...
……
ALRIGHT IT'S TIME TO HEAD HOME
ぺちっ
NARUMI-SAN! THERE IS A WASP BEHIND YOU!
!!
ぎゅっ
にぱ
……
……
KEKEKE, I FOUND YOUR WEAK POINT
……